

Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center



**6685 Coolidge Highway
Troy, MI 48098-1943
248.524.3567**



Nature Center Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday-Saturday	8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Sunday	12 noon - 5 pm

Holiday Closures:

Easter - April 10-13
Memorial Day - May 23-25

Nature Center Trails: Starting May 1 through October 31, the trails will be open for walking until 9 pm on normal business days.

The Stage Nature Center is a 100-acre facility operated by the City of Troy Parks and Recreation Department. Admission is free! In addition to our scheduled programs, the interpretive center and trails are open during posted hours. Come and enjoy our new exhibits and Children's Nature Area.

Let the Stage Nature Center be your gateway to the natural world! There are more than two miles of nature trails for you to enjoy, winding through meadows, forest, and stream. These trails are for **walking only**, please leave bikes in the bike rack near the parking lot. Jogging, pets, and collecting are not allowed.

"Our mission is to create passion for, and knowledge of, the natural world in the hearts and minds of our citizens, which will lead to increased understanding, and stewardship of our natural environment."



A special Thank You to Whole Foods Market for Sponsoring our Maple Syruping program and our new EGGcitement event!

Maple Syrup Time

Sponsored by: Whole Foods Market



You'll know winter is coming to an end when you hear maple sap dripping into buckets at the Stage Nature Center. Each year, warming days and freezing nights in March start the flow of sap in the trees.

Our program starts with a short introduction to maple syruping indoors, then we'll hike the trails to see how sap is collected. Afterwards, we'll stop in the sugar shed and see the wood-stoked sap evaporator in action. The tour finishes with syrup tasting over warm mini-pancakes!

Check out Cattail Cove, our nature shop, after the tour. All proceeds help to support the Stage Nature Center and its educational programs.

Please note: *March 7 and March 14 are for individual and family sign ups only, no scout groups please. March 21 is for scout groups and their leaders only.*

Register by calling the SNC at 248.524.3567. Programs start every half hour between 9 am and 3:30 pm. Walk-ins are welcome on the day of the program on a space available basis only. **Fees are paid at the door.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$4 at the door

Age	Day	Time	Date
4-Adult	Sat	9 am - 3:30 pm	Mar 7
4-Adult	Sat	9 am - 3:30 pm	Mar 14
Scouts	Sat	9 am - 3:30 pm	Mar 21



"Time in nature is not leisure time; it's an essential investment in our children's health." *Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods*

Icon Key



The envelope represents that the class is **available for on-line registration only**.



The Early Bird icon indicates programs that were first offered in the previous bulletin issue and are available for immediate registration. Do not use the registration drop box at the Community Center.

Yoga, Naturally

Instructor Janice Bahura will train you in the proper techniques and basics of Hatha Yoga, emphasizing plant and animal postures found in nature. This series of ten classes is great for the beginner or continuing student. Previous yoga experience is not required. Wear loose comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat, and a towel. Yoga blocks or straps are optional. At the instructor's discretion some classes may be held outside. 10 classes.

Participants must be registered prior to class time. Minimum registration numbers are required by March 25.

Location: Stage Nature Center

Instructor: Janice Bashura

Act #	Ages	Day	Dates*	Time	NR	Res	Disc
327329A	12-adult	Sun	3/29-6/14	1-2 pm	\$104	\$99	

*no class 4/12 and 5/24



Kids Celebrate Your Birthday

...at the Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center! Our birthday parties are a special way to celebrate your youngster's special day.

These two-hour parties include a naturalist-led talk, live animal demo, nature activity, hike, decorations, invitations, and a gift for each party participant.

Children ages 4-7 can choose from:

- Birthday at the Pond
- Making Sense of Nature
- Furs, Feathers and Fins

Children ages 8-12 can choose from:

- Secrets of the Forest
- The Rap on Raptors (Birds of Prey)
- Wildlife Trackers

Cost is \$120 for up to 12 children, with \$10 for each additional child up to a maximum of 18.

Call us at 248.524.3567 for more details or to book your party!



EGGcitement at the Farm

Sunday, April 5 at Troy Farm

Sponsored by: Whole Foods Market

What better place to find eggs than at the Troy Farm? The kids will EGGsplore the nature of eggs as they check out the EGGsperiment station. We will test our coordination with the ever-so famous spoon-egg races. Let your child's imagination wander at the art station with coloring crafts and activities. Finally, we will end the afternoon adventures with an Easter Egg Hunt, where every child will find candy surprises. Reserve your spot fast and you might just get the chance to meet a furry friend at the Farm!

Please dress for the weather. Boots are recommended. The adult partner is free and must accompany the child through the program. **Minimum registration numbers required by March 28.**

Location: Troy Farm

Activity	Ages	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res	Disc
327265A	3-12	Apr 5	1-2:30 pm	Sun	\$11	\$9	
327265B	3-12	Apr 5	3-4:30 pm	Sun	\$11	\$9	



Frogs-a-Calling

Come and enjoy the night air as we head out to the marsh to hear the frogs and toads calling! First we will adventure to our outdoor classroom as we discuss some of the different amphibians in Michigan and how to identify them by sight and sound. Then, with demonstrations and mounts, we will discuss their life cycles and when and why they call every spring. Finally, as dusk approaches, we will be true scientists as we identify and record the frog and toad calls we hear!

Please dress for the weather as we will be outside for most of the program. This is a family program. **Children must be accompanied by an adult. Each person must enroll and pay the fee. Minimum number of registrations required by April 10.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Ages	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res	Disc
327002A	7-adult	Apr 17	7:30-9 pm	Fri	\$5	\$3	

Naturalist Backpack Rental

Year round you can rent a naturalist's backpack equipped with lots of exploring equipment to make your hike along our trails an interactive experience for your whole family. Cost is \$10 for two hours.

Stop at the SNC front desk during regular business hours for details!



Live Hawks & Owls Earth Day Celebration

Come and view nature up close as Joe Rogers presents the natural history of hawks and owls. Joe Rogers and his team have been rehabilitating injured hawks and owls in Michigan for many years. You will be amazed by his knowledge and mesmerized by these incredible birds, live and up close! This is a wonderful way to celebrate Earth Day with your family!

This is a family program; children must be accompanied by an adult. Each person participating must enroll and pay the fee. **Minimum registration numbers are required by April 15.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Ages	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res Disc
327401A	3-adult	Apr 22	7-8:30 pm	Wed	\$7	\$5

Little Acorns

Come grow with us in nature. Explore the sights, smells, and sounds of spring with a young child. Children will experience nature with their senses through various activities in the out-of-doors. This program will take place entirely outside, except in the event of extreme inclement weather. Bring children in backpacks, strollers with large wheels or wagons, sturdy enough for a wood chipped trail. This program is designed for children age 1-4 and their adult parent/caregiver. **The adult partner is free and must accompany the child throughout the program.** **Minimum registration numbers are required by April 16.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Ages	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res Disc
327051A	1-3	Apr 23	10-11 am	Thu	\$5	\$3
327051B	3-4	Apr 23	1-2 pm	Thu	\$5	\$3
327051C	1-3	Apr 24	10-11 am	Fri	\$5	\$3

A Relaxation Reminder

You deserve some much needed quiet time in this busy world! Come to the Nature Center to read and relax in our library! Enjoy some blissful moments exploring our many nature-related books as you watch the wildlife outside the big picture windows. The library is open for your enjoyment whenever the building is open.

Scout It Out



Brownies and Junior Scouts can complete their nature-related badge or try-it's here at the Stage Nature Center during these special two-hour programs. All items necessary to fulfill the requirements for the particular badge or try-it are covered. Scouts receive a certificate of completion at the end of each program. Sorry we do not furnish the badge or try-it itself.

Registration is now available for all of these programs for individual scouts, or troops. Dress for the weather, scouts will be outside for part of the program rain or shine. Leaders need to remain with their groups. Individual scouts, not accompanied by a scout leader, must have adult supervision. Adults and scout leaders are admitted free. **Sorry, there are no refunds or transfers for these programs.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$7

Juniors - Wildlife

Minimum registration numbers required by April 18.

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
327207A	Juniors	Sat	9-11 am	Apr 25
327207B	Juniors	Sat	12-2 pm	Apr 25

Brownies - Water Everywhere

Minimum registration numbers required by May 23.

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
327216A	Brownies	Sat	9-11 am	May 30
327216B	Brownies	Sat	12-2 pm	May 30



Invasive Plant Pull Saturdays, May 2, 16, and 30 10 am

We are looking for individuals or groups (ages 14-adult) to volunteer and help us preserve our native flora by eradicating "Garlic Mustard", an invasive nonnative plant. The only equipment needed is "old fashioned elbow grease" and garden gloves. No power tools are necessary or allowed. Bring a kneeling pad, if desired. Call 248.524.3567 to register or for more information.



Come check out the completed AQUAWALL!! This tremendous wall houses all the Nature Center's live reptiles and amphibians in aquariums with natural-looking habitats. The wall is decorated with the beautiful murals by Lori Taylor, the artist who also designed the backdrops to the Kid's Nature Area and the Mastodon Discovery Dig. The wall also consists of taxidermy mounts, several 3-D panels, interpretive signs and interactive lily pads and rocks that encourage learning and discovery!

**NEW
Class**

Puri-Tea

Welcome spring with a refreshing cup of tea! From sassafras and chamomile to dandelion and strawberry, teas have been used throughout the ages for relaxation, socialization, and healing. In this program practice the art of making organic teas at home. You will learn how to start your own herbal tea garden and where to find the best ingredients growing wild.

Participants will experiment with simple tea-making techniques and recipes, and of course sample an assortment of teas! Handouts and take home samples are included in the fee. **Minimum number of registrations required by April 25.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Age	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res	Disc
327158A	12-Adult	May 2	10-11:30 am	Sat	\$14	\$12	

Nature Center O.W.L.S.

You should belong to the Nature Center O.W.L.S. if you are an older, wiser, livelier senior! This program is offered seasonally throughout the year. Come and encounter spring at the nature center. We will experience the sights and sounds of the spring season with a brief talk indoors. We will learn how plants and animals welcome spring. Outside on the trails we will walk into a spring world with a naturalist, or you can choose to stay indoors to relax and watch for wildlife in our observation area. **Minimum registration numbers are required by April 30.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Age	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res	Disc
327210A	Adult	May 7	10-11:30 am	Thu	\$5	\$3	

**NEW
Class**

"Weather" or Not

What is weather? How does it affect our outdoor activities? How do plants and animals adapt to the weather? What makes storms and how do we stay safe during one? Join us as we explore what makes weather happen. There will be lots of "hands-on" learning fun, including our Teaching Tornado, to help everyone discover more about what causes it to be rainy, snowy, sunny, or cloudy. Everyone will make a "cool" rain stick to take home. It sounds just like rain hitting a roof! Please dress for the weather as we will be going outside. **Minimum registration numbers are required by May 10.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Age	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res	Disc
327356A	7-10	May 17	3-4:30 pm	Sun	\$9	\$7	

RIVER DAY 2009

**Saturday, June 6 at Stage Nature Center
9 am - 1 pm**

Join our volunteers this year, as we work in the Headwaters of the Rouge River to improve the natural habitat along the stream at the Stage Nature Center. This upstream reach of the Rouge River is home to some of the most pristine water in the entire Rouge River Watershed, including amphibians, fish and aquatic insects that are only found in high-quality waterways. All volunteers will receive a t-shirt and a BBQ lunch.

Activities include:

Streambank Stabilization, Native Plant Restoration,
Invasive Plant Removal and Building Trails

To volunteer, contact: Jen Lawson at 248.524.3381 or by e-mail at: j.lawson@troymt.gov

Summer Ecology Days

Give your child a special opportunity to study the science of ecology – the study of the interrelationships between living and nonliving things and their environment – by signing them up for this fantastic four-day program!

Every adventure-filled day will include fun interactive games, activities, and crafts. Children will use pond nets to catch aquatic animals, sweep for insects in the meadow, explore life on a log using bug boxes and magnifiers, look for signs of wildlife along the trail, and much more! There will be lots of exciting things for your child to do each day, rain or shine!

Bring a sack lunch each day, we will provide the refreshments and an afternoon snack. **Minimum registration numbers are required by June 16.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Activity	Ages	Date	Time	Day	NR	Res	Disc
337019A	6-7	6/23-26	8:30 am-4 pm	T-F	\$95	\$90	
337019B	8-10	6/23-26	8:30 am-4 pm	T-F	\$95	\$90	

Junior Naturalist Club

The Junior Naturalist Club (JNC) is a very popular year long award winning program dedicated to teaching your children about nature. We believe in learning while having fun.

The JNC meets the second or third Saturday of each month and everyday for one week in July. The membership fee includes all meetings (September through July), lots of "hands on" activities, crafts, patches, naturalist kits, and a family barbecue during July Week.

We are opening registration for this program early in the season to give you a head-start on signing up. **Beginning on April 15 you can register your children for the next session, which starts in September 2009.** We have openings for kids from preschool (four years old) through fifth grade. Great natural fun for your child!

Nonmembers are welcome to attend Saturday meetings when space is available. Each session is \$9 at the door for nonmembers. Phone the Stage Nature Center to inquire about space availability. **Minimum registration numbers are required by August 29.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

NR: \$103

Res Disc: \$98

Activity	Section	Gr	Day	Time	Date
337461A	Discoverers	4yr	Sat	10-11:30 am	Sep 12
337462A	Adventurers	K	Sat	10-11:30 am	Sep 19
337463A	Trackers	1	Sat	10-11:30 am	Sep 12
337464A	Explorers	2	Sat	12:30-2:30 pm	Sep 19
337465A	Questors	3	Sat	12:30-2:30 pm	Sep 12
337466A	Seekers	4-5	Sat	12:30-2:30 pm	Sep 19



Spring Scavenger Hunt

Pick up a Scavenger Hunt at the front desk of the Nature Center and return completed for a prize! Designed for ages 3-adult, this will surely add some fun to your hike. Available during regular business hours for \$2 each.

Visit SNC for more details!

Wild Adventure Camps

Facilitated by Oakland County Parks and Recreation

Both are week-long day camps facilitated by Oakland County Parks and Recreation. Camp is held every day at Independence Oaks Park.

Transportation to and from this park is provided with pick-up and drop-off at the Nature Center at the times listed below. Fees will be assessed for picking up campers late, see page 83.

Wild Adventures Camp

Fun and safe activities to bring learning and fun together as one - geocaching, star lab, big wheeling, fishing, and fort building to name a few. From camouflage (a new twist on hide and seek), to crafts, to climbing towers, to waterparks, the adventure never ends! Give your child a chance to create memories and great stories for them to take back to school this year! Registration ends August 3.

Destination: Independence Oaks

Staff: Oakland County Camp Staff

Activity	Ages	Date	Time*	Day	NR	Res	Disc
337030A	6-10	8/10-14	8:40 am-4:10 pm	M-F	\$160	\$155	

*Pick-up and drop off times are approximate

T.O.G.A. EXTREME Camp

(Teens Outside Great Adventures)

formerly Wild Adventures EXTREME

T.O.G.A. EXTREME combines outdoor leadership, adventure, teambuilding, and outdoor recreation into five days full of fun and excitement! Paddling, climbing, geocaching, and mountain biking are just the beginning. On Thursday, enjoy a day-long canoe trip on the Huron River followed by a cookout, campfire drum circle, and campout under the stars at Camp Wilderness. The week ends with a fun and relaxing Beach Bash – sand sculptures, limbo contest, and more. Bring your friends and take it to the EXTREME! Registration ends August 10.

NOTE: Due to the sleep-over on Thursday, there is no afternoon bus returning from camp to the SNC on Thursday and no morning bus leaving for camp from the SNC on Friday.

Destination: Independence Oaks

Staff: Oakland County Camp Staff

Activity	Ages	Date	Time*	Day	NR	Res	Disc
337030B	11-15	8/17-21	8:40 am-4:10 pm	M-F	\$195	\$190	

*Pick-up and drop off times are approximate

"A growing body of evidence suggests that these two trends—the decline in children's health and their separation from nature—are linked. If we fail to recognize this link and reconnect kids with nature, we shortchange their health and happiness now—and risk creating a generation of adults that is less healthy, productive and able to value and protect our country's natural resources. Now is the time to act. The National Forum on Children and Nature has found ways that we can all take action—today."

Source: "National Forum on Children & Nature"